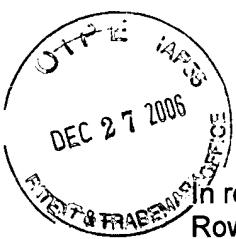


Application No. 10/614,546
Art Unit 3728
Interview Summary
Attorney Docket No. CCT1.PAU.01 (formerly 6228-A)

Patent Application



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Rowe et al.

Patent Application No.: 10/614,546

Date Filed: July 3, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
PACKAGING ELONGATE
SURGICAL DEVICES

Examiner: Fidei, David
Art Group: 3728

INTERVIEW SUMMARY UNDER 37 CFR §1.133

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please make the following INTERVIEW SUMMARY of record according to 37 CFR §1.133(b), MPEP §713.04.

PARTICIPANTS:

1. Examiner: David T. Fidei
2. Applicant's counsel: Vic Lin, Reg. No. 43,754

DATE OF INTERVIEW: November 6, 2006

TYPE OF INTERVIEW: Telephonic

EXHIBITS OR DEMONSTRATIONS: n/a

CLAIMS DISCUSSED: The pending claims

PRIOR ART DISCUSSED: Samuels (US 6,047,825), Heifetz (US 3,312,579),

Farrell et al. (US 6,053,313), Prather et al. (US 5,247,942)

PRINCIPAL PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AND ARGUMENTS DISCUSSED:

Regarding the drawings, Applicant's counsel explained that the continuous weld was indicated in Figure 7 by numeral 30. Applicant's counsel suggested making the curved weld 30 more bold for emphasis.

Applicant's counsel discussed how Samuels taught away from the claimed invention since its tube was intended to be uncoiled and straightened. Applicant's counsel also indicated that Heifetz did not disclose any curved thermal bonds, nor did it disclose any manner in accomplish such bonds. Applicant's counsel also noted that Farrell was no different than Prather et al., which was overcome in a prior response, since both references were unconcerned with coiled packaging and thus showed conventional mechanical clips, which have been omitted in Applicant's claimed invention.

Applicant's counsel also discussed copying by competitors as strong evidence of non-obviousness.

RESULTS:

Though an agreement on the patentability claims was not reached, both the examiner and Applicant's counsel agreed that amending the claims and strengthening the evidence regarding copying would be helpful in overcoming the pending claim rejections.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Fidei for granting the telephone interview.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney if any open issues remain with respect to the telephone interview.

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 22, 2006

Eric Hoover



Signature

December 22, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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